

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

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Claim 1 (currently amended): A system for managing admission to an attraction comprising:

- a first validator for establishing an entitlement of a customer to access the attraction;
- a controller for generating an assigned time at which said customer may access the attraction, said assigned time comprising a next available time as determined by an algorithm performed by said system; *and*
- a distributor for distributing an admission pass to customers entitled to access the attraction, said admission pass including informational material; and wherein the informational material is generated specifically for at least one of the customer based upon an identification of that customer or to influence pedestrian traffic patterns; and
- a second validator for permitting said customer to access said attraction at said assigned time.

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Claim 2 (original): The system in accordance with Claim 1 wherein the controller unilaterally determines and issues said assigned time to said customer.

Claim 3 (currently amended): A system for managing admission to an attraction comprising:

- a first queue by which customers may access the attraction by waiting in line;
- a second queue by which customers may access the attraction in a manner which avoids the first queue;
- a distributor for distributing an admission pass to customers entitled to access the attraction, said admission pass including informational material; and wherein the informational material is generated for at least one of specifically being for the customer based upon an identification of that customer or to influence pedestrian traffic patterns; and
- a first validator for validating an entitlement of a customer to access the second queue and generating an assigned time in the future at which an entitled customer may access the attraction via the second queue.

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Claim 4 (original): The system in accordance with Claim 3, further comprising:

a second validator for permitting the entitled customer access to the attraction at the assigned time.

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Claim 5 (original): The system in accordance with Claim 4 wherein the assigned time is determined and selected by the system.

Claim 6 (original): The system in accordance with Claim 5, wherein only a single time is generated and assigned to any one customer at any one time.

Claim 7 (currently amended): A system for managing admission to an attraction comprising:

a first queue by which customers may access the attraction by waiting in line;

a second queue by which customers may access the attraction in a manner which avoids the first queue;

a first validator for validating an entitlement of a customer to access the second queue and generating an assigned time in the future at which an entitled customer may access the attraction via the second queue;

a second validator for permitting the entitled customer access to the attraction at the assigned time;

the assigned time being determined and selected by the system and wherein only a single time is generated and assigned to any one customer at any one time; and

~~The system in accordance with Claim 6, wherein said first validator is arranged to validate at least one type of identifying information from the group consisting of: magnetic strip, bar code, radio-frequency, iris, fingerprint, retina, voice, thermal, finger or hand geometry, and visual identification.~~

Claim 8 (original): The system in accordance with Claim 7 wherein said second validator is arranged to validate at least one type of identifying information from the group consisting of: magnetic strip, bar code, radio-frequency, iris, fingerprint, retina, voice, thermal, finger or hand geometry, and visual identification.

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Claim 9 (original): The system in accordance with Claim 8 including at least one data storage device for storing data regarding times previously assigned to customers and wherein said system is arranged to deny validation of said customer to entitlement to an assigned time if said customer has an outstanding unused assigned time associated with said at least one storage device.

Claim 10 (original): The system in accordance with Claim 9 including a media distributor for distributing an admission media to customers entitled to access the attraction, said admission media including said assigned time.

Claim 11 (original): The system in accordance with Claim 10 wherein said media comprises a printed pass.

Claim 12 (original): The system in accordance with Claim 11 wherein said first validator comprises a card reader for reading a ticket belonging to a customer.

Claim 13 (cancelled)

Claim 14 (original): The system in accordance with Claim 3 including a display for displaying a time which is next to be assigned.

Claim 15 (original): The system in accordance with Claim 3 including a media distributor for distributing an admission media to customers entitled to access the attraction, said admission media including informational material printed thereon.

Claim 16 (original): The system in accordance with claim 15 wherein said informational material is correlated to the location of the media distributor and the time assigned.

Claim 17 (currently amended): A system for managing admission to an attraction comprising:
a first queue by which customers may access the attraction by waiting in line;
a second queue by which customers may access the attraction in a manner which avoids
the first queue;

a first validator for validating an entitlement of a customer to access the second queue and generating an assigned time in the future at which an entitled customer may access the attraction via the second queue;

a media distributor for distributing an admission media to customers entitled to access the attraction, said admission media including informational material printed thereon; and

The system in accordance with claim 15 wherein the informational material is generated specifically for the customer based upon an identification of that customer.

Claim 18 (currently amended): A system for managing admission to an attraction comprising:

a first queue by which customers may access the attraction by waiting in line;

a second queue by which customers may access the attraction in a manner which avoids the first queue;

a first validator for validating an entitlement of a customer to access the second queue and generating an assigned time in the future at which an entitled customer may access the attraction via the second queue;

a media distributor for distributing an admission media to customers entitled to access the attraction, said admission media including informational material printed thereon; and

The system in accordance with claim 15 wherein the informational material is generated to influence pedestrian traffic patterns.

Claim 19 (currently amended): A method for managing access of one or more customers to an attraction comprising:

establishing at least one first queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction generally in an order in which customers access said at least one first queue;

establishing at least one second queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction in a manner which avoids said at least one first queue;

establishing entitlement of at least one customer and generating an assigned time in the future for each entitled customer for accessing said attraction via said at least one second queue; and

distributing an admission pass to customers entitled to access the attraction, said admission pass including informational material; and wherein the informational material is generated specifically for at least one of the customer based upon an identification of that customer or to influence pedestrian traffic patterns; and

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D1* establishing entitlement of at least one customer to access said attraction via said at least one second queue at said assigned time in the future.

Claim 20 (original): The method in accordance with Claim 19 wherein said assigned time is determined and selected by a controller.

C2 **Claim 21 (original):** The method in accordance with Claim 19 including the step of issuing a media to said at least one customer if entitlement to an assigned time in the future is established.

Claim 22 (original): The method in accordance with Claim 19 including the step of assigning said times in the future in chronological order.

Claim 23 (original): The method in accordance with Claim 19 including the step of displaying a next to be assigned time in the future for accessing said attraction via said at least one second queue.

Claim 24 (original): The method in accordance with Claim 19 wherein said assigned time is generated based upon one or more factors affecting demand for and capacity of said attraction.

Claim 25 (original): The method in accordance with Claim 19 including the step of providing a printed pass including informational material printed thereon.

Claim 26 (original): The method in accordance with Claim 25 wherein said informational material is correlated to the location where the printed pass was printed and the time assigned.

Claim 27 (currently amended): A method for managing access of one or more customers to an attraction comprising:

establishing at least one first queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction generally in an order in which customers access said at least one first queue;

establishing at least one second queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction in a manner which avoids said at least one first queue;

establishing entitlement of at least one customer and generating an assigned time in the future for each entitled customer for accessing said attraction via said at least one second queue;

establishing entitlement of at least one customer to access said attraction via said at least one second queue at said assigned time in the future;

said informational material being correlated to the location where the printed pass was printed and the time assigned; and

~~The system in accordance with Claims 25~~ wherein the informational material is generated to influence pedestrian traffic patterns.

Claim 28 (currently amended): A method for managing access of one or more customers to an attraction comprising:

establishing at least one first queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction generally in an order in which customers access said at least one first queue;

establishing at least one second queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction in a manner which avoids said at least one first queue;

establishing entitlement of at least one customer and generating an assigned time in the future for each entitled customer for accessing said attraction via said at least one second queue;

establishing entitlement of at least one customer to access said attraction via said at least one second queue at said assigned time in the future;

said informational material being correlated to the location where the printed pass was printed and the time assigned; and

~~The system in accordance with Claims 25~~ wherein the informational material is generated specifically for the customer based upon an identification of that customer.

Claim 29 (currently amended): A method of managing access to an attraction comprising:

establishing at least one first queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction generally in an order in which customers access said at least one first queue;

establishing at least one second queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction in a manner which avoids said at least one first queue;

determining at one or more times a real time operating capacity of said attraction;

generating an admission pass to customers entitled to access the attraction, said admission pass including informational material; and wherein the informational material is generated specifically for at least one of the customer based upon an identification of that customer or to influence pedestrian traffic patterns;

issuing media to said customers, said media having an assigned time in the future associated therewith at which time said customer may access said attraction via said at least one second queue, said media having assigned times which are issued on a first come, first served basis; and

permitting a customer having a media to access said attraction via said second queue at said assigned time in the future.

Claim 30 (currently amended): A method of managing access to an attraction comprising:

establishing at least one first queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction generally in an order in which customers access said at least one first queue;

establishing at least one second queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction in a manner which avoids said at least one first queue;

issuing media to said customers, said media having an assigned time in the future associated therewith at which time said customer may access said attraction via said at least one second queue, said media having assigned times which are issued on a first come, first served basis;

permitting a customer having a media to access said attraction via said second queue at said assigned time in the future; and

The method in accordance with claim 29 wherein said assigned time must be the next available time.

Claim 31 (currently amended): The method in accordance with claim 29-30 including the step of verifying entitlement of said customer to be issued said media.

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Claim 32 (currently amended): The method in accordance with claim 29-30 including the step of comparing a current time to said assigned time in the future associated with said media for determining if said customer is permitted to access said attraction via said second queue.

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Claim 33 (currently amended): The method in accordance with claim 29-30 wherein said media comprises a printed pass.

Claim 34 (currently amended): The method in accordance with claim 29-30 including the step of generating said assigned times based upon a demand for and capacity of said attraction.

Claim 35 (currently amended): The method in accordance with claim 29-30 including the step of generating said assigned times based upon a number of spots associated with said attraction allocated to customers accessing said attraction via said second queue in relation to a total number of spots associated with said attraction.

Claim 36 (currently amended): The method in accordance with claim 29-30 wherein said attraction is associated with a venue and including the steps of verifying entitlement of said customer to access said venue and issuing said media at said time said customer accesses said venue.

Claim 37 (previously added): The method in accordance with claim 29 wherein said attraction is one of several at a venue and including the step of issuing said media having multiple assigned times in the future associated therewith, said times including a time at which said customer may access said attraction and a time at which said customer may access at least one other attraction of said venue.

Claim 38 (previously added): The method in accordance with claim 29 wherein said attraction is associated with a venue and wherein said media is issued prior to said customer accessing said venue.

Claim 39 (currently amended): A method of managing access to an attraction comprising:

establishing at least one first queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction generally in an order in which customers access said at least one first queue;

establishing at least one second queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction in a manner which avoids said at least one first queue;

determining at one or more times a real time operating capacity of said attraction;

generating an admission pass to customers entitled to access the attraction, said admission pass including informational material; and wherein the informational material is generated specifically for at least one of the customer based upon an identification of that customer or to influence pedestrian traffic patterns;

issuing media to said customers, said media having an assigned time in the future associated therewith at which time said customer may access said attraction via said at least one second queue, said media having assigned times wherein said assigned times are based on a determination of a next available time; and

permitting a customer having a media to access said attraction via said second queue at said assigned time in the future.

Claim 40 (currently amended): A method of managing access to an attraction comprising:

establishing at least one first queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction generally in an order in which customers access said at least one first queue;

establishing at least one second queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction in a manner which avoids said at least one first queue;

issuing media to said customers, said media having an assigned time in the future associated therewith at which time said customer may access said attraction via said at least one second queue, said media having assigned times wherein said assigned times are based on a determination of a next available time;

permitting a customer having a media to access said attraction via said second queue at said assigned time in the future; and

~~The method in accordance with claim 39 wherein said assigned time must be the next available time.~~

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Claim 41 (currently amended): The method in accordance with claim 39 40 including the step of verifying entitlement of said customer to be issued said media.

Claim 42 (currently amended): The method in accordance with claim 39 40 including the step of comparing a current time to said assigned time in the future associated with said media for determining if said customer is permitted to access said attraction via said second queue.

Claim 43 (currently amended): The method in accordance with claim 39 40 wherein said media comprises a printed pass.

Claim 44 (currently amended): The method in accordance with claim 39 40 including the step of generating said assigned times based upon a demand for and capacity of said attraction.

Claim 45 (currently amended): The method in accordance with claim 39 40 including the step of generating said assigned times based upon a number of spots associated with said attraction allocated to customers accessing said attraction via said second queue in relation to a total number of spots associated with said attraction.

Claim 46 (currently amended): The method in accordance with claim 39 40 wherein said attraction is associated with a venue and including the steps of verifying entitlement of said customer to access said venue and issuing said media at said time said customer accesses said venue.

Claim 47 (previously added): The method in accordance with claim 39 wherein said attraction is one of several at a venue and including the step of issuing said media having multiple assigned times in the future associated therewith, said times including a time at which said customer may access said attraction and a time at which said customer may access at least one other attraction of said venue.

Claim 48 (previously added): The method in accordance with claim 39 wherein said attraction is associated with a venue and wherein said media is issued prior to said customer accessing said venue.

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Claim 49 (currently amended): A method of managing access to an attraction comprising:
establishing at least one first queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction generally in an order in which customers access said at least one first queue;
establishing at least one second queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction in a manner which avoids said at least one first queue;
determining at one or more times a real time operating capacity of said attraction;
generating an admission pass to customers entitled to access the attraction, said admission pass including informational material; and wherein the informational material is generated specifically for at least one of the customer based upon an identification of that customer or to influence pedestrian traffic patterns;
issuing media to said customers, said media having an assigned time in the future associated therewith at which time said customer may access said attraction via said at least one second queue, said media having assigned times wherein said assigned times are based on a determination of a next available time, as determined at the time of issuance; and
permitting a customer having a media to access said attraction via said second queue at said assigned time in the future.

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Claim 50 (currently amended): A method of managing access to an attraction comprising:
establishing at least one first queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction generally in an order in which customers access said at least one first queue;
establishing at least one second queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction in a manner which avoids said at least one first queue;
issuing media to said customers, said media having an assigned time in the future associated therewith at which time said customer may access said attraction via said at least one second queue, said media having assigned times wherein said assigned times are based on a determination of a next available time, as determined at the time of issuance;
permitting a customer having a media to access said attraction via said second queue at said assigned time in the future; and
~~The method in accordance with claim 49 wherein the assigned time must be the next available time.~~

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Claim 51 (currently amended): The method in accordance with claim 49-50 including the step of verifying entitlement of said customer to be issued said media.

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Claim 52 (currently amended): The method in accordance with claim 49-50 including the step of comparing a current time to said assigned time in the future associated with said media for determining if said customer is permitted to access said attraction via said second queue.

Claim 53 (currently amended): The method in accordance with claim 49-50 wherein said media comprises a printed pass.

Claim 54 (currently amended): The method in accordance with claim 49-50 including the step of generating said assigned times based upon a demand for and capacity of said attraction.

Claim 55 (currently amended): The method in accordance with claim 49-50 including the step of generating said assigned times based upon a number of spots associated with said attraction allocated to customers accessing said attraction via said second queue in relation to a total number of spots associated with said attraction.

Claim 56 (currently amended): The method in accordance with claim 49-50 wherein said attraction is associated with a venue and including the steps of verifying entitlement of said customer to access said venue and issuing said media at said time said customer accesses said venue.

Claim 57 (previously added): The method in accordance with claim 49 wherein said attraction is one of several at a venue and including the step of issuing said media having multiple assigned times in the future associated therewith, said times including a time at which said customer may access said attraction and a time at which said customer may access at least one other attraction of said venue.

Claim 58 (previously added): The method in accordance with claim 49 wherein said attraction is associated with a venue and wherein said media is issued prior to said customer accessing said venue.

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Claim 59 (currently amended): A method of managing access to an attraction comprising:

establishing at least one first queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction generally in an order in which customers access said at least one first queue;

establishing at least one second queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction in a manner which avoids said at least one first queue;

determining at one or more times a real time operating capacity of said attraction;

generating an admission pass to customers entitled to access the attraction, said admission pass including informational material; and wherein the informational material is generated specifically for at least one of the customer based upon an identification of that customer or to influence pedestrian traffic patterns;

calculating a next available time to access said attraction through said second queue;

offering an assigned time to said customer, wherein said assigned time is determined based upon said calculation of said next available time;

issuing media to said customers, said media having the assigned time associated therewith at which time said customer may access said attraction via said at least one second queue; and

permitting a customer having a media to access said attraction via said second queue at said assigned time in the future.

Claim 60 (currently amended): A method of managing access to an attraction comprising:

establishing at least one first queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction generally in an order in which customers access said at least one first queue;

establishing at least one second queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction in a manner which avoids said at least one first queue;

calculating a next available time to access said attraction through said second queue;

offering an assigned time to said customer, wherein said assigned time is determined based upon said calculation of said next available time;

issuing media to said customers, said media having the assigned time associated therewith at which time said customer may access said attraction via said at least one second queue;

permitting a customer having a media to access said attraction via said second queue at said assigned time in the future; and

~~The method in accordance with claim 59 wherein said assigned time must be the next available time.~~

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Claim 61 (currently amended): The method in accordance with claim 59-60 including the step of verifying entitlement of said customer to be issued said media.

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Claim 62 (currently amended): The method in accordance with claim 59-60 including the step of comparing a current time to said assigned time in the future associated with said media for determining if said customer is permitted to access said attraction via said second queue.

Claim 63 (currently amended): The method in accordance with claim 59-60 wherein said media comprises a printed pass.

Claim 64 (currently amended): The method in accordance with claim 59-60 including the step of generating said assigned times based upon a demand for and capacity of said attraction.

Claim 65 (currently amended): The method in accordance with claim 59-60 including the step of generating said assigned times based upon a number of spots associated with said attraction allocated to customers accessing said attraction via said second queue in relation to a total number of spots associated with said attraction.

Claim 66 (currently amended): The method in accordance with claim 59-60 wherein said attraction is associated with a venue and including the steps of verifying entitlement of said customer to access said venue and issuing said media at said time said customer accesses said venue.

Claim 67 (previously added): The method in accordance with claim 59 wherein said attraction is one of several at a venue and including the step of issuing said media having multiple assigned times in the future associated therewith, said times including a time at which said customer may

access said attraction and a time at which said customer may access at least one other attraction of said venue.

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Claim 68 (previously added): The method in accordance with claim 59 wherein said attraction is associated with a venue and wherein said media is issued prior to said customer accessing said venue.

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Claim 69 (currently amended): A method of managing access to an attraction comprising:

establishing at least one first queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction generally in an order in which customers access said at least one first queue;

establishing at least one second queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction in a manner which avoids said at least one first queue;

determining at one or more times a real time operating capacity of said attraction;

generating an admission pass to customers entitled to access the attraction, said admission pass including informational material; and wherein the informational material is generated specifically for at least one of the customer based upon an identification of that customer or to influence pedestrian traffic patterns;

determining and selecting a time to be assigned; offering said assigned time to said customer;

issuing media to said customers when said customer requests said assigned time, said media having the assigned time associated therewith at which time said customer may access said attraction via said at least one second queue; and

permitting a customer having a media to access said attraction via said second queue at said assigned time.

Claim 70 (previously added): The method in accordance with claim 69 including the step of verifying entitlement of said customer to be issued said media.

Claim 71 (previously added): The method in accordance with claim 69 including the step of comparing a current time to said assigned time in the future associated with said media for determining if said customer is permitted to access said attraction via said second queue.

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Claim 72 (previously added): The method in accordance with claim 69 wherein said media comprises a printed pass.

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Claim 73 (previously added): The method in accordance with claim 69 including the step of generating said assigned times based upon a demand for and capacity of said attraction.

Claim 74 (previously added): The method in accordance with claim 69 including the step of generating said assigned times based upon a number of spots associated with said attraction allocated to customers accessing said attraction via said second queue in relation to a total number of spots associated with said attraction.

Claim 75 (previously added): The method in accordance with claim 69 wherein said attraction is associated with a venue and including the steps of verifying entitlement of said customer to access said venue and issuing said media at said time said customer accesses said venue.

Claim 76 (previously added): The method in accordance with claim 69 wherein said attraction is one of several at a venue and including the step of issuing said media having multiple assigned times in the future associated therewith, said times including a time at which said customer may access said attraction and a time at which said customer may access at least one other attraction of said venue.

Claim 77 (previously added): The method in accordance with claim 69 wherein said attraction is associated with a venue and wherein said media is issued prior to said customer accessing said venue.

Claim 78 (currently amended): A system for managing admission to an attraction comprising:

- a first validator for establishing the entitlement of a customer to access the attraction;
- a controller for determining a next available time as determined and selected by an algorithm performed by said system, and generating an assigned time based upon said determined next available time; and
- a distributor for distributing an admission pass to customers entitled to access the attraction, said admission pass including informational material; and wherein the informational

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material is generated specifically for at least one of the customer based upon an identification of that customer or to influence pedestrian traffic patterns; and

a second validator for permitting said customer to access said attraction at said assigned time.

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Claim 79 (currently amended): A system for managing admission to an attraction comprising:
a first validator for establishing the entitlement of a customer to access the attraction;
a controller for determining a next available time as determined and selected by an algorithm performed by said system, and generating an assigned time based upon said determined next available time;

a second validator for permitting said customer to access said attraction at said assigned time; and

~~The system in accordance with claim 78 wherein said assigned time must be the next available time.~~

Claim 80 (previously added): The system of claim 78 wherein said assigned time comprises a time range during which the customer may access the attraction.

Claim 81 (currently amended): The system in accordance with claim 78-79 including a media distributor for distributing an admission media to customers entitled to access the attraction, said admission media including said assigned time.

Claim 82 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 81 wherein said admission media is utilized with said second validator to establish entitlement of the customer to access said attraction.

Claim 83 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 82 wherein said admission media comprises a printed pass.

Claim 84 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 78 wherein said first validator for establishing the entitlement comprises a card reader for reading a ticket belonging to a customer.

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Claim 85 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 78 including an algorithm processor for determining at one or more times a real time operating capacity of said attraction, said algorithm processor determining a mix ratio of first queue patrons and second queue patrons and providing data about said real time operating capacity and said mix ratio to said controller for generating said assigned time.

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Claim 86 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 78 wherein the attraction comprises a theme park ride.

Claim 87 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 86 including sensors associated with said attraction providing data regarding a capacity of said attraction to said controller for generating an assigned time.

Claim 88 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 78 including a first queue by which customers access said attraction and a second queue by which said customers access said attraction and wherein first validator establishes the entitlement of a customer to access the attraction via the second queue and said second validator is associated with said second queue.

Claim 89 (currently amended): A system for managing admission to an attraction comprising:

 a first validator for establishing the entitlement of a customer to access the attraction;
 a controller configured to determine and select an assigned time based upon an algorithm performed by said system and to allow said assigned time to be offered to said customer; and

a processor for determining at one or more times a real time operating capacity of said attraction;

a distributor for distributing an admission pass to customers entitled to access the attraction, said admission pass including informational material; and wherein the informational material is generated specifically for at least one of the customer based upon an identification of that customer or to influence pedestrian traffic patterns; and

 a second validator for permitting said customer to access said attraction at said assigned time, when said assigned time is taken by said customer.

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Claim 90 (previously added): The system of claim 89 wherein said assigned time comprises a time range during which the customer may access the attraction.

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Claim 91 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 89 including a media distributor for distributing an admission media to customers entitled to access the attraction, said admission media including said assigned time.

Claim 92 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 91 wherein said admission media is utilized with said second validator to establish entitlement of the customer to access said attraction.

Claim 93 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 92 wherein said admission media comprises a printed pass.

Claim 94 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 89 wherein said first validator for establishing the entitlement comprises a card reader for reading a ticket belonging to a customer.

Claim 95 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 89 including an algorithm processor for determining at one or more times a real time operating capacity of said attraction, said algorithm processor determining a mix ratio of first queue patrons and second queue patrons and providing data about said real time operating capacity and said mix ratio to said controller for generating said assigned time.

Claim 96 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 89 wherein the attraction comprises a theme park ride.

Claim 97 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 96 including sensors associated with said attraction providing data regarding a capacity of said attraction to said controller for generating an assigned time.

Claim 98 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 89 including a first queue by which customers access said attraction and a second queue by which said customers access

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said attraction and wherein first validator establishes the entitlement of a customer to access the attraction via the second queue and said second validator is associated with said second queue.

Claim 99 (previously added): A system for managing admission to an attraction comprising:

- a first validator for establishing the entitlement of a customer to access the attraction;
- a controller for determining a next available time as determined and selected by an algorithm performed by said system, generating an assigned time based upon said determined next available time, and offering said assigned time to said customer; and
- a distributor for distributing an admission pass to customers entitled to access the attraction, said admission pass including informational material; and wherein the informational material is generated specifically for at least one of the customer based upon an identification of that customer or to influence pedestrian traffic patterns; and
- a second validator for permitting said customer to access said attraction at said assigned time, when said assigned time is taken by said customer.

Claim 100 (previously added): The system of claim 99 wherein said assigned time comprises a time range during which the customer may access the attraction.

Claim 101 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 99 including a media distributor for distributing an admission media to customers entitled to access the attraction, said admission media including said assigned time.

Claim 102 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 101 wherein said admission media is utilized with said second validator to establish entitlement of the customer to access said attraction.

Claim 103 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 102 wherein said admission media comprises a printed pass.

Claim 104 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 99 wherein said first validator for establishing the entitlement comprises a card reader for reading a ticket belonging to a customer.

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Claim 105 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 99 including an algorithm processor for determining at one or more times a real time operating capacity of said attraction, said algorithm processor determining a mix ratio of first queue patrons and second queue patrons and providing data about said real time operating capacity and said mix ratio to said controller for generating said assigned time.

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Claim 106 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 99 wherein the attraction comprises a theme park ride.

Claim 107 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 106 including sensors associated with said attraction providing data regarding a capacity of said attraction to said controller for generating an assigned time.

Claim 108 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 99 including a first queue by which customers access said attraction and a second queue by which said customers access said attraction and wherein first validator establishes the entitlement of a customer to access the attraction via the second queue and said second validator is associated with said second queue.

Claim 109 (currently amended): A system for managing admission to an attraction comprising:

 a first queue by which customers may access the attraction by waiting in line;

 a second queue by which customers may access the attraction in a manner which avoids the first queue;

a distributor for distributing an admission pass to customers entitled to access the attraction, said admission pass including informational material; and wherein the informational material is generated specifically for at least one of the customer based upon an identification of that customer or to influence pedestrian traffic patterns;

 a first validator for validating an entitlement of a customer to access the attraction at an assigned time in the future via the second queue, wherein the assigned time is determined by the system, based on a determination of a next available time; and

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a second validator for validating the entitled customer access to the attraction at the assigned time.

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Claim 110 (currently amended): A system for managing admission to an attraction comprising:

a first queue by which customers may access the attraction by waiting in line;

a second queue by which customers may access the attraction in a manner which avoids the first queue;

a first validator for validating an entitlement of a customer to access the attraction at an assigned time in the future via the second queue, wherein the assigned time is determined by the system, based on a determination of a next available time;

a second validator for validating the entitled customer access to the attraction at the assigned time; and

~~The system in accordance with claim 109~~ wherein said assigned time must be the next available time.

Claim 111 (currently amended): The system in accordance with claim 109-110 including a media distributor for distributing a media to an entitled customer, said media including said assigned time at which the entitled customer is entitled to access the attraction in the future via said second queue.

Claim 112 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 111 wherein said media comprises a printed pass.

Claim 113 (currently amended): The system in accordance with claim 109-110 wherein said first validator comprises a card reader for reading a ticket.

Claim 114 (currently amended): The system in accordance with claim 109-110 wherein said system includes a controller for receiving data regarding a real time operating capacity of said attraction and providing times to be assigned by said media distributor in accordance with a mixed ratio of first queue patrons and second queue patrons.

Sub 01

Claim 115 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 114 wherein said controller includes a server.

Claim 116 (currently amended): The system in accordance with claim 109-110 including a database containing information regarding customers entitled to access said second queue.

Claim 117 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 116 wherein said database contains information regarding tickets belonging to customers.

Claim 118 (currently amended): The system in accordance with claim 109-110 including a display for displaying a wait time associated with said first queue.

(2)

Claim 119 (currently amended): The system in accordance with claim 109-110 including a display for displaying a time which is next to be assigned.

Claim 120 (currently amended): The system of claim 109-110 wherein said assigned time comprises a time range during which the customer may access the attraction.

Claim 121 (currently amended): A system for managing admission to an attraction comprising:

a first queue by which customers may access the attraction by waiting in line;

a second queue by which customers may access the attraction in a manner which avoids the first queue;

a distributor for distributing an admission pass to customers entitled to access the attraction, said admission pass including informational material; and wherein the informational material is generated for at least one of specifically being for the customer based upon an identification of that customer or to influence pedestrian traffic patterns;

a first validator for validating an entitlement of a customer to access the attraction at an assigned time in the future via the second queue, wherein the assigned time is determined by the system, based on a determination of a next available time, and offered to the customer; and

a second validator for validating the entitled customer access to the attraction at the assigned time.

*Sub
D1*

Claim 122 (currently amended): A system for managing admission to an attraction comprising:

a first queue by which customers may access the attraction by waiting in line;

a second queue by which customers may access the attraction in a manner which avoids the first queue;

a first validator for validating an entitlement of a customer to access the attraction at an assigned time in the future via the second queue, wherein the assigned time is determined by the system, based on a determination of a next available time, and offered to the customer;

a second validator for validating the entitled customer access to the attraction at the assigned time; and

~~The method in accordance with claim 121 wherein said assigned time must be the next available time.~~

Claim 123 (currently amended): The system in accordance with claim 121-122 including a media distributor for distributing a media to an entitled customer, said media including said assigned time at which the entitled customer is entitled to access the attraction in the future via said second queue.

Claim 124 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 123 wherein said media comprises a printed pass.

Claim 125 (currently amended): The system in accordance with claim 121-122 wherein said first validator comprises a card reader for reading a ticket.

Claim 126 (currently amended): The system in accordance with claim 121-122 wherein said system includes a controller for receiving data regarding a real time operating capacity of said attraction and providing times to be assigned by said media distributor in accordance with a mixed ratio of first queue patrons and second queue patrons.

Claim 127 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 126 wherein said controller includes a server.

*Sub
D1*

Claim 128 (currently amended): The system in accordance with claim 121-122 including a database containing information regarding customers entitled to access said second queue.

C2

Claim 129 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 128 wherein said database contains information regarding tickets belonging to customers.

Claim 130 (currently amended): The system in accordance with claim 121-122 including a display for displaying a wait time associated with said first queue.

Claim 131 (currently amended): The system in accordance with claim 121-122 including a display for displaying a time which is next to be assigned.

Claim 132 (currently amended): The system of claim 121-122 wherein said assigned time comprises a time range during which the customer may access the attraction.

Claim 133 (currently amended): A system for managing admission to an attraction comprising:

a first queue by which customers may access the attraction by waiting in line;

a second queue by which customers may access the attraction in a manner which avoids the first queue;

a distributor for distributing an admission pass to customers entitled to access the attraction, said admission pass including informational material; and wherein the informational material is generated for at least one of specifically being for the customer based upon an identification of that customer or to influence pedestrian traffic patterns;

a first validator for validating an entitlement of a customer to access the attraction at an assigned time in the future via the second queue, wherein the assigned time is determined and selected by the system and offered to the customer; and

a second validator for validating the entitled customer access to the attraction at the assigned time.

Claim 134 (currently amended): A system for managing admission to an attraction comprising:

a first queue by which customers may access the attraction by waiting in line;
a second queue by which customers may access the attraction in a manner which avoids
the first queue;

a first validator for validating an entitlement of a customer to access the attraction at an
assigned time in the future via the second queue, wherein the assigned time is determined and
selected by the system and offered to the customer;

a second validator for validating the entitled customer access to the attraction at the
assigned time; and

~~The system in accordance with claim 133~~ wherein said assigned time must be the next
available time.

Claim 135 (currently amended): The system in accordance with claim 133-134 including a
media distributor for distributing a media to an entitled customer, said media including said
assigned time at which the entitled customer is entitled to access the attraction in the future via
said second queue.

Claim 136 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 135 wherein said media
comprises a printed pass.

Claim 137 (currently amended): The system in accordance with claim 133-134 wherein said
first validator comprises a card reader for reading a ticket.

Claim 138 (currently amended): The system in accordance with claim 133-134 wherein said
system includes a controller for receiving data regarding a real time operating capacity of said
attraction and providing times to be assigned by said media distributor in accordance with a
mixed ratio of first queue patrons and second queue patrons.

Claim 139 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 138 wherein said
controller includes a server.

Claim 140 (currently amended): The system in accordance with claim 133-134 including a
database containing information regarding customers entitled to access said second queue.

Sub 01

Claim 141 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 140 wherein said database contains information regarding tickets belonging to customers.

Claim 142 (currently amended): The system in accordance with claim 133-134 including a display for displaying a wait time associated with said first queue.

Claim 143 (currently amended): The system in accordance with claim 133-134 including a display for displaying a time which is next to be assigned.

CJ

Claim 144 (previously added): The system of claim 133 wherein said assigned time comprises a time range during which the customer may access the attraction.

Claim 145 (currently amended): A method of managing access to an attraction comprising:
establishing at least one first queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction generally in an order in which customers access said at least one first queue;

establishing at least one second queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction in a manner which avoids said at least one first queue;

permitting a customer to elect to access said attraction via said at least one first queue or said at least one second queue; and

determining a next available time for accessing the attraction through said second queue, wherein a time to be assigned is derived from said determined next available time and said time to be assigned is offered to said customer;

determining if said customer has any outstanding assigned future times; and
offering said assigned time to said customer, if said customer has no outstanding assigned future times.

Claim 146 (previously added): The method in accordance with claim 145 including the step of verifying said customer is entitled to be assigned said next available time if said customer elects to access said attraction via said at least one second queue.

Sub 01

Claim 147 (currently amended): The method in accordance with claim 145 wherein the subsystem determines and selects said time to be assigned based on a changing capacity of said attraction.

C2

Claim 148 (previously added): The method in accordance with claim 145 including the step of verifying said customer is entitled to access said attraction via said at least one second queue at said next available time.

Claim 149 (cancelled)

Claim 150 (previously added): The method in accordance with claim 145 including the step of allocating a number of spots associated with said attraction to customers accessing said attraction via said at least one second queue.

Claim 151 (previously added): The system of claim 145 wherein said assigned time comprises a time range during which the customer may access the attraction.

Claim 152 (currently amended): A method of managing access to an attraction comprising:

- establishing at least one first queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction generally in an order in which customers access said at least one first queue;
- establishing at least one second queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction in a manner which avoids said at least one first queue;
- permitting a customer to elect to access said attraction via said at least one first queue or said at least one second queue;
- determining and selecting a future time to be assigned for accessing the attraction through said second queue; and
- determining if said customer has any outstanding assigned future times; and
- offering said assigned time to said customer if said customer has no outstanding assigned future times.

Sub D1

Claim 153 (previously added): The method in accordance with claim 152 including the step of verifying said customer is entitled to be assigned said future time if said customer elects to access said attraction via said at least one second queue.

C2

Claim 154 (currently amended): The method in accordance with claim 152 wherein the a subsystem determines and selects said time to be assigned based on a changing capacity of said attraction.

Claim 155 (previously added): The method in accordance with claim 152 including the step of verifying said customer is entitled to access said attraction via said at least one second queue at said future time.

Claim 156 (cancelled)

Claim 157 (previously added): The method in accordance with claim 152 including the step of allocating a number of spots associated with said attraction to customers accessing said attraction via said at least one second queue.

Claim 158 (previously added): The system of claim 152 wherein said assigned time comprises a time range during which the customer may access the attraction.

Claim 159 (currently amended): A method of managing access to an attraction comprising:

- establishing at least one first queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction generally in an order in which customers access said at least one first queue;
- establishing a least one second queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction in a manner which avoids said at least one first queue;
- determining and selecting a next available time to access said attraction via said second queue;
- offering an assigned time to said customer, wherein said assigned time is derived from said next available time;
- distributing media to customers entitled to access the attraction, said media including informational material; and wherein the informational material is generated specifically for at

least one of the customer based upon an identification of that customer or to influence pedestrian traffic patterns;

issuing media to said customers, said media having said assigned time associated therewith at which time said customer may access said attraction via said at least one second queue; and

permitting a customer having a media to access said attraction via said second queue at said assigned time in the future.

Claim 160 (previously added): The method in accordance with claim 159 including the step of determining if said customer is entitled to be issued said media.

Claim 161 (previously added): The method in accordance with claim 159 including the step of comparing a current time to said assigned time in the future associated with said media for determining if said customer is permitted to access said attraction via said second queue.

Claim 162 (previously added): The method in accordance with claim 159 wherein said media comprises a printed pass.

Claim 163 (previously added): The method in accordance with claim 159 wherein said subsystem determines and selects said assigned times based upon a demand for and capacity of said attraction.

Claim 164 (previously added): The method in accordance with claim 159 wherein said subsystem determines and selects said assigned times based upon a number of spots associated with said attraction allocated to customers accessing said attraction via said second queue in relation to a total number of spots associated with said attraction.

Claim 165 (previously added): The method in accordance with claim 159 wherein said attraction is associated with a venue and including the steps of verifying entitlement of said customer to access said venue and issuing said media at said time said customer accesses said venue.

Sub 01

Claim 166 (previously added): The method in accordance with claim 159 wherein said attraction is one of several at a venue and including the step of issuing said media having multiple assigned times in the future associated therewith, said times including a time at which said customer may access said attraction and a time at which said customer may access at least one other attraction of said venue.

C2

Claim 167 (previously added): The method in accordance with claim 159 wherein said attraction is associated with a venue and wherein said media is issued prior to said customer accessing said venue.

Claim 168 (previously added): The system of claim 159 wherein said assigned time comprises a time range during which the customer may access the attraction.

Claim 169 (currently amended): A system for managing admission to an attraction comprising:

a first validator for establishing the entitlement of a customer to access the attraction;
a controller for determining a next available time as calculated by an algorithm performed by said system, and generating assigned times based upon said determined next available time; and

a distributor for distributing an admission pass to customers entitled to access the attraction, said admission pass including informational material; and wherein the informational material is generated for at least one of specifically being for the customer based upon an identification of that customer or to influence pedestrian traffic patterns; and

a second validator for permitting said customer to access said attraction at an assigned time selected by the customer.

Claim 170 (currently amended): A system for managing admission to an attraction comprising:

a first validator for establishing the entitlement of a customer to access the attraction;

a controller for determining a next available time as calculated by an algorithm performed by said system, and generating assigned times based upon said determined next available time;

a second validator for permitting said customer to access said attraction at an assigned time selected by the customer; and

~~The system in accordance with claim 169 wherein said assigned time must be the next available time.~~

Claim 171 (previously added): The system of claim 169 wherein said assigned time comprises a time range during which the customer may access the attraction.

Claim 172 (currently amended): The system in accordance with claim 169 including a media distributor for distributing an admission media to ~~each customer~~ customers entitled to access the attraction, said admission media including said assigned time.

Claim 173 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 172 wherein said admission media is utilized with said second validator to establish entitlement of the customer to access said attraction.

Claim 174 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 173 wherein said admission media comprises a printed pass.

Claim 175 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 169 wherein said first validator for establishing the entitlement comprises a card reader for reading a ticket belonging to a customer.

Claim 176 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 169 including an algorithm processor for determining at one or more times a real time operating capacity of said attraction, said algorithm processor determining a mix ratio of first queue patrons and second queue patrons and providing data about said real time operating capacity and said mix ratio to said controller for generating said assigned times.

Sub D1

Claim 177 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 169 wherein the attraction comprises a theme park ride.

CJ

Claim 178 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 177 including sensors associated with said attraction providing data regarding a capacity of said attraction to said controller for generating said assigned times.

Claim 179 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 169 including a first queue by which customers access said attraction and a second queue by which said customers access said attraction and wherein first validator establishes the entitlement of a customer to access the attraction via the second queue and said second validator is associated with said second queue.

Claim 180 (currently amended): A system for managing admission to an attraction comprising:

a first queue by which customers may access the attraction by waiting in line;
a second queue by which customers may access the attraction in a manner which avoids the first queue;

a first validator for validating an entitlement of a customer to access the attraction at an assigned time in the future via the second queue, wherein assigned times are determined by the system, based on a determination of a next available time; and

a distributor for distributing an admission pass to customers entitled to access the attraction, said admission pass including informational material; and wherein the informational material is generated for at least one of specifically being for the customer based upon an identification of that customer or to influence pedestrian traffic patterns; and

a second validator for validating the entitled customer access to the attraction at the assigned time selected by the customer.

Claim 181 (currently amended): A system for managing admission to an attraction comprising:

a first queue by which customers may access the attraction by waiting in line;

a second queue by which customers may access the attraction in a manner which avoids the first queue;

a first validator for validating an entitlement of a customer to access the attraction at an assigned time in the future via the second queue, wherein assigned times are determined by the system, based on a determination of a next available time;

a second validator for validating the entitled customer access to the attraction at the assigned time selected by the customer; and

~~The system in accordance with claim 180 wherein said assigned time must be the next available time.~~

Claim 182 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 180 including a media distributor for distributing a media to an entitled customer, said media including said assigned time at which the entitled customer is entitled to access the attraction in the future via said second queue.

Claim 183 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 182 wherein said media comprises a printed pass.

Claim 184 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 180 wherein said first validator comprises a card reader for reading a ticket.

Claim 185 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 180 wherein said system includes a controller for receiving data regarding a real time operating capacity of said attraction and providing times to be assigned by said media distributor in accordance with a mixed ratio of first queue patrons and second queue patrons.

Claim 186 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 185 wherein said controller includes a server.

Claim 187 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 180 including a database containing information regarding customers entitled to access said second queue.

Sub D1

Claim 188 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 187 wherein said database contains information regarding tickets belonging to customers.

C2

Claim 189 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 180 including a display for displaying a wait time associated with said first queue.

Claim 190 (previously added): The system in accordance with claim 180 including a display for displaying a time which is next to be assigned.

Claim 191 (previously added): The system of claim 180 wherein said assigned time comprises a time range during which the customer may access the attraction.

Claim 192 (previously added): A method of managing access to an attraction comprising:

establishing at least one first queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction generally in an order in which customers access said at least one first queue;

establishing at least one second queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction in a manner which avoids said at least one first queue;

determining if said customer is entitled to be issued said media;

determining a next available time to access said attraction via said second queue;

offering assigned times to said customers, wherein said assigned times are derived from said determination of a next available time;

issuing media to said customers, said media having an assigned time selected by the customer associated therewith at which time said customer may access said attraction via said at least one second queue; and

permitting a customer having a media to access said attraction via said second queue at said assigned time in the future; and

the issued media including informational material; and wherein the informational material is generated specifically for at least one of the customer based upon an identification of that customer or to influence pedestrian traffic patterns.

Claim 193 (cancelled)

Sub 1

Claim 194 (previously added): The method in accordance with claim 192 including the step of comparing a current time to said assigned time in the future associated with said media for determining if said customer is permitted to access said attraction via said second queue.

C2

Claim 195 (previously added): The method in accordance with claim 192 wherein said media comprises a printed pass.

Claim 196 (previously added): The method in accordance with claim 192 wherein a subsystem determines and selects said assigned times based upon a demand for and capacity of said attraction.

Claim 197 (previously added): The method in accordance with claim 192 wherein a subsystem determines and selects said assigned times based upon a number of spots associated with said attraction allocated to customers accessing said attraction via said second queue in relation to a total number of spots associated with said attraction.

Claim 198 (previously added): The method in accordance with claim 192 wherein said attraction is associated with a venue and including the steps of verifying entitlement of said customer to access said venue and issuing said media at said time said customer accesses said venue.

Claim 199 (previously added): The method in accordance with claim 192 wherein said attraction is one of several at a venue and including the step of issuing said media having multiple assigned times in the future associated therewith, said times including a time at which said customer may access said attraction and a time at which said customer may access at least one other attraction of said venue.

Claim 200 (previously added): The method in accordance with claim 192 wherein said attraction is associated with a venue and wherein said media is issued prior to said customer accessing said venue.

Sub D1

Claim 201 (previously added): The system of claim 192 wherein said assigned time comprises a time range during which the customer may access the attraction.

C2

Claim 202 (currently amended): A system for the real time adjustment of the flow of customers to one or more particular attractions, thereby permitting optimization of the capacity of the attraction with the demand of customers comprising:

a first queue by which said customer may access said particular attraction by waiting in line;

a second queue by which said customer may access said particular attraction in a manner which avoids the first queue;

a distributor for distributing an admission pass to customers entitled to access the attraction, said admission pass including informational material; and wherein the informational material is generated specifically for at least one of the customer based upon an identification of that customer or to influence pedestrian traffic patterns;

a first validator for validating an entitlement of said customer to access the second queue;

a controller for unilaterally determining, generating and issuing an assigned range of time at which said customer may access said particular attraction via the second queue, wherein said controller comprises a processor for determining at one or more times, a real time operating capacity of said attraction, said processor providing data about said real time operating capacity to said system for generating said assigned range of time, a data storage device for storing data regarding times previously assigned to customers and wherein said system is arranged to permit or deny validation of said customer to entitlement to an assigned time based on said stored data; and

a second validator for permitting the entitled customer access to assigned attraction at the assigned range of time.

Claim 203 (previously added): A system according to claim 202 wherein said system is arranged to permit validation of said customer to entitlement to multiple assigned times.

Claim 204 (previously added): A system according to claim 203 wherein said multiple assigned times are for the same attraction.

(2)
Claim 205 (previously added): A system according to claim 203 wherein said multiple assigned times are each for different attractions.

Claim 206 (previously added): A system according to claim 203 wherein said system permits validation to multiple assigned times at some times and not at others.

Sub 1
(3)
Claim 207 (new): A system for managing admission to an attraction comprising;
a first queue by which customers may access the attraction by waiting in line;
a second queue by which customers may access the attraction in a manner which avoids the first queue;

a first validator for validating an entitlement of a customer to access the second queue and generating an assigned time in the future at which an entitled customer may access the attraction via the second queue;

a second validator for permitting the entitled customer access to the attraction at the assigned time;

the assigned time being determined and selected by the system; and

wherein said first validator is arranged to validate at least one type of identifying information from the group consisting of: magnetic strip, bar code, radio-frequency, iris, fingerprint, retina, voice, thermal, finger or hand geometry, and visual identification.

Claim 208 (new): The system in accordance with Claim 207 wherein said second validator is arranged to validate at least one type of identifying information from the group consisting of: magnetic strip, bar code, radio-frequency, iris, fingerprint, retina, voice, thermal, finger or hand geometry, and visual identification.